

Elementary Staff Report:

It has been a busy month in the Elementary School!

The 4K students took a field trip to **Grandpa's Farm** where they learned about growing pumpkins, how apple cider is made, visited a petting farm, experimented with a structure that allowed them to discover how different widths of pipe allow corn to travel at varied speeds, spent time climbing on stacked round bales and crawling through tunnels forming deeper friendships, and learned about animals in the petting zoo area where they were able to spend time with ducks, geese, rabbits, miniature horses, and goats. The hay ride and time in the farm house learning about making cider together were among the highlights of the trip.



Third Grade students went to the **Tomahawk Historical Museum** this past month and reported an incredible learning experience while there. This is a trip they've considered cancelling and have decided the education students received while there cannot be achieved in the classroom. I'm pleased they are continuing to include this experiential learning in their annual schedule.

October is **Fire Prevention Month**. Our local Fire Department spent one and a half days at TES teaching students at each grade level about fire safety. While we did not have the smoke house this year, the fire department did an excellent job presenting fire safety curriculum to our students.



Our fifth grade students traveled to Eagle River for the overnight **Trees For Tomorrow** trip. This was reported to be one of the best TFT trips ever! While at this trip, students developed problem solving skills through many team building activities. They also learn about reducing waste, games of long ago, outdoor historical games played by lumberjacks that honed specific skills, and an evening presentation about wolves provides a deep understanding of this animals habitat, habits, and life. Students also enjoy a campfire they build and develop deeper friendships with one another.

Fourth grade & Upper Multiage went to **Tree Haven** in October. This is an annual trip for this grade level. Students learn about the environment while on this trip. One portion is focused on Wisconsin History – Explorers, fur trading, etc., another tree identification, and the third lumberjack experiences where students use a two person saw to cut a log into pieces.

Battle of the Books (BOB), a statewide competition, has started. Students are reading books that listed for possible awards. Junior Battle of the Books has also started this month. This is held within TES only. Teams of up to four students each read the books from the list and on the day of competition answer as many questions as they're able to earn the most points and become the BOB winners!

Swimming has started for our second through fifth grade students this month. All students in grades 2-5 in Mr. Steinmetz's classes have had swim class for the last two weeks. This is a highlight for many students in our elementary.

Title I Parents night was held Oct. 20. We had a very nice turnout this year with a few offerings different than previous years. This year, Mrs. Kernan and Mrs. Anderson offered sessions linked to literature. Students added beat using drums to several texts in Mrs. Anderson's room while students in



Mrs. Kernan's room created leaf painting connected to a text Mrs. Kernan shared. In Mrs. Roberts room students and parents learned about creating electrical circuits with the goal of lighting up the light bulb. Our intervention teachers along with several classroom teachers shared math games and literacy tips to families and Ms. Annette (Miller) from the Tomahawk Public Library shared some of her current favorite books for all ages. Special thanks to each of our teachers who were part of the night, Ms. Annette, Mr. Perrodin and to the PTO who covered the cost

of the meal.

Friday afternoon, Oct. 28, found the elementary building alive with **Halloween Parties**. Students and staff were dressed for the occasion with many challenging games and far too many sweets. Incredible fun was had by all present that day.



Last week, I accepted the Wisconsin School Health Award for our Elementary school. Mrs. Baalke, Ms. McAllister, Mrs. Kissinger-Wolfe, and I all worked hard to develop a healthier elementary school. Upon submitting all that we had done to make changes to meet Wisconsin School's Healthier Generation, we were awarded the Bronze level award as a school. We are continuing to meet this year with hopes of earning the Silver level award next year!



Our elementary students participated in **Kids Vote** this past Wednesday. All teachers took their students down to voting booths set up in the commons area to cast their vote for president. This created quite a bit of conversation about who should become our next president, discussions about our responsibility as voters, and a few heated arguments as students debated with one another about which candidate would best serve our country. It is interesting to listen to our youngest talking about what they believe each candidate will do if they are placed in office. Comments such as:
"He is going to build a wall around Tomahawk."
"She is going to take our guns away."
Filled the air of the cafeteria.



Wednesday, Nov. 2 was **Cookie Monster's birthday**. Taher helped students celebrate this event by providing a cookie to each child who ate hot lunch. Students were welcome to frost and decorate their cookies at stations set up around the cafeteria. This resulted in some very busy cooks as more hot lunch meals were purchased that day than any before!